Paris August 29th 1833

Dr Samuel Moore

Dear Sir

According to your wish I have procured the newest and best specimens of the Coins of France from the five franc pieces downwards, and as I had been requested by Mr Peale to procure them for him also, I take the liberty to send you two specimens and will thank you to hand to him one of each. You will observe that the five francs pieces are struck with the "tiroir Cussei"

The Silver are numbered from one to five

I send also three Medals in Copper

No 6 bearing the Portrait of J. D. Antoine the Architect of the Mint of Paris, a view of the centre portion of which is on the reverse.

No 7 a Medal with the portrait of P. J. Collier father of the present engraver of the Mint of Paris

No 8 Medal of Duvivier the predecessor in the same office as the above all executed by D P Collier the Present Chief engraver of the Mint

Two Pieces of pig iron struck in the reign of Louis 14 of the value of one and a half sous. they constitute what are called "Billon" being composed of Copper and a small quantity of Silver their standard

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is about 150 millièmes of silver to 850 millièmes of copper in the thousand parts now are to be found less than there. Struck pieces of the usual appearance.

No 10 Pieces of one liard. Struck in the reign of Louis XIIII they are of pure copper, and four are equal in value to one sous.

No 11 pieces of one sous struck in the reigns of Louis fourteenth and fifteenth they are of pure copper

No 12 pieces called un dicenime of the value of two sous, and one sous or five centimes Struck under the republic they contain from five to eight per cent of tin. the rest is copper.

No 13 pieces of value of one and two sous fabricated during the revolution out of the Church Bells, they have been cast and contain from twenty five to thirty parts of tin and from seventy to seventy five parts of copper. in the hundred.

No 14 Pieces of "Billon" of the value of ten centimes or two sous. Struck in the reign of Napoleon. They are composed of two hundred millièmes of silver and eight hundred millièmes of copper. The tolerance is fourteen millièmes above seven above and seven below or £20 7/9 — there exists much of this kind of money in circulation that has been illegally struck. which consists

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Solely of Copper.

The Gold and Silver Coins of the United States, Great Britain or Spain are not a Legal Tender in France. They circulate at various rates according to the demand in the market an exact value cannot be fixed it varies often with the "agio" or course of exchange as Gold is Silver it fluctuates from three francs to thirty per cent in Gold and one to ten francs for Silver. This relates to the exchange value of the Coins. The intrinsic value is fixed by the Mint tariff, it is thus. American dollars coined since 1800 Piastres with the device commenced in 1772 and Cruzades of Portugal are of the standard of 900 Millièmes, and the value 19 francs per Kilogram.

This value is taken from the Books of the Mint of Paris. Your questions as answered above and the following remarks are from one of the principle Exchange Offices in Paris.

"The intercourse of business being active between France and England and the course of exchange varying often the coins are taken according to the value of Bills are generally much above the real value. The Spanish dollars and Doubloons are the Coins most in demand in certain Countries in and out of Europe. Chiefly in the East and West Indies the inhabitants of these places especially the former prefer them at a much higher rate

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" to american doubloons and dollars bought the latter be of a better quality"

" The American Coins in general either of the United States of the Southern Republics are sold in France for melting into bars. their prices vary accordingly to the premium, but they are never considered as current The Silver Coins of the United States by weight are estimated at a lower rate than those of Peru and Mexico. the Standard being about one per cent lop in the American Dollars. It is acknowledged by the experience of numerous appeals that Sovereigns are also of a higher Standard than American Eagles. the English gold is 916 fine in the thousand Eagles 913 fine in the thousand"

Our quotation will shew you the esteem in the market in which our Coin is held & I have deemed it of sufficient importance to copy it for your information

By Mr. Walsh (son of the Editor) I hope you will receive safely the Coins of which this sheet contains the list and description according to your desire as expressed in yours of the 29 of June. I had a hope to have received also a specimen struck by the press of Monsieur Thonnelier but it was not received in time, and I must therefore wait another opportunity

Much delay and difficulty I am sorry to say has arisen in regard to the necessary

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information and steps relative to the process of Parting by Sulphuric acid. Some preliminary matters and a general statement I shall to you with also information of my expected opportunity of the influence of Monsieur Thiers. I have since seen him and received his promise to use his influence in having the exhorbitant charge reduced, but as yet no benefit has resulted, and I have some reason to fear that we have little or nothing to hope from this quarter.

It appears that this process has become of immense importance, so much so that I have positive information that Rothschild is about to become a partner in the establishment with which I have been in treaty with the design to make a monopoly of it.

I have been promised full documentary proofs (the originals of which I have seen) of its value and the prices that have been paid for its use and for instruction. with the guarantee of perfect initiation under articles of agreement subject to your approbation. which I have with send to you. they give the most positive assurance that these documents will be satisfactory to our Government and as this is the largest and best establishment in France. I have after conference with Mr Thiers signified my willingness to make such an arrangement.

As it will put us in possession of facts of

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importance your or the approbation of Government altogether provisional must depend to approbation as above I cannot doubt your approval

I have taken measures also to ascertain the price & distinction of other species of paper & which there are two in which this precaution is followed, and as I have gained nothing by avowing that it is for the government that I am acting I apply to these as an individual in the hope that they may be more reasonable at the worst come to the worst if I should not be able to get this information in the practical and familiar manner that is so desirable, I shall witness the operation on the small scale before I leave France having a positive promise to that effect from Mons. Briant the manufacturer of Platina paper who is also an officer of the Mint of Paris.

This most important part of my mission has given me not a little anxiety, but I have been entirely unable to avoid the delay that has occurred, in the interim my time has been fully occupied in applying daily at the Assays by the Junior boy in attending the Assays by the Capel, and general matters, during the Mint hours and the remaining portion of the day in making drafts of every thing that I judged useful. such as plans of the Assay Room

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and pictures for burnin apays. Also 4
Capel pictures. Capel furnaces 4 pale toze.
4 the "viole briser" 4 Chronometers coming
forep. 4 the Melting furnace rest. the
latter 4 are now engaged upon. brought
from melting pots are used in which they
melt habitually 650 Kilogrames 4 Silver.
I have completed 15 4 them drafts and
have a number more in contemplation. and
hope that they will be found to contain
arrangements 4 utility and importance.
In accordance with your instructions I
have ordered a set 4 pictures for burnin
apay the cost 4 which I mentioned in
an early letter, it would be impopible to
make them in america without much trouble
and perhaps greater cost than here. I have
found the Indian crucibles for decanting and
drying the carbets to best and smoothe 4
that preferable to platinum, and have further
procured a few dozen for samples, which I
will send by the first opportunity, in the hope
that our Ecksellent may be pleased with them.
I will remark also that in the melt 4 Bars
they heat the Corner after the action 4 the
acid in the Muffle, the heat from and steadi-
ness 4 this crucible permitting as many 4
them to be placed in it as 4 empty
I had written thus far when I had the
satisfaction to receive yours 4 the 31 July
with its enclosures.
Our thanks be to whom one 4 our Directors

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letter was addressed & accidentally met in Paris on his way to Italy. I was greatly in hopes that he could give me satisfactory information relative to my prospects in England but was disappointed, he states that it was without influence, I shall therefore be obliged to proceed to England although the Market gave me little hope that I should be successful

in Paris & now I have freely consulted Mr Gales that to go now is too far advanced for a visit to St Petersburg. as it will subject me to a long and expensive journey by land on my return. and with his approbation I have determined to postpone for the present a visit to that place. leaving for consideration at a future period if circumstances should prevent our success in Paris or London. I have not by any means concluded my researches in the Mint of Paris, but the business of coining is of such importance that I think it necessary to ascertain by personal examination whether I can obtain the necessary information in England & if cheaper rate than in Paris and I think it probable that by the next packet I shall advise you of that movement.

I have procured and will forward by the first opportunity a copy of "Instructions for City Surveyors" I will state that it is

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not necessary to send you the report of the Commission appointed by the peace government on account of the plate for there is but one and it contains you will find inserted in Plate first of the "Publications" of Lepsius. Another and important reason is that they are not now on sale a few copies being originally struck off if however you think it of importance I can copy the plate with great care.

I inclose the receipt according to your direction for money placed to my credit by Mr. Hottinguer & Co and will forward the duplicate by the next packet

In a preceding part of this letter I noticed the papers of which the following list contains the amount you then you will be able to make up your mind of the value of the Process of Fixing by sulphuric acid.

A Note drawn up by Mr Jefferson to show I brought letter and he is well acquainted with the Point.

B This document relating to the Statements in that note. The translations are not grammatical enough but sufficiently clear to understood

C. The agreement that goes into effect if approved by yourself or authorized by the Government of the U States. It was necessary that this agreement

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he signed before Mr Rothschild advised into the partnership or he would have demanded much more premium

2d is a private note relative to the advantages of the process with reference to the Papers marked B and the Pamphlet marked C

3d Shall not be able by this packet to send you the charge made by Mr Favier another refiner of Paris as it has not been given to me in time, the same reason will be my excuse for not sending translations of all these papers they can however be much better made in Phila than in Paris.

Mr Favier Like the only other Refiner in Paris agrees to give me every opportunity of observation and instruction, his works are open and I have every reason to believe him perfectly competent, his charge is much more moderate 12,000 francs and if any information can be gained in Paris it will be under his instruction

4 is the address and price of Mr Brant Manufacturer of Platina Vessels you will oblige me much, as it may be essential for the execution of a good plan of an Refinery for parting, by sending a plan of the Part of the mint that can be applied to this purpose including

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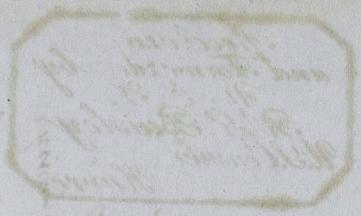
the court, and the space above and below the room itself of which I have the honour to send drawings

I have the honour to be most
Respectfully
Your
Obt. Servt.
Franklin Peale.



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MAY 9 1967

To

Samuel Moon
Director of the
Mint of the
United States
Philada

NEW-YORK
OCT 10
STEAM

Received and Entered
in the Post Office
at Philadelphia

2366

Mint of Gold
Lehman Lafayette
Martin
pay $252-

Philada Oct 29 1833

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